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EASTERN

F.O.
371

1948

PALESTINE

FILE No. 2

pp. 543

68513

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2 JAN

The number of Jews in Cyprus has since been increased by those arriving on the "Pan York", "Pan Crescent", "Giovanni Maria" and "Marie Annick". The total is now probably about 31,000 (assuming the "PAN" to have brought 15,000) and the limit is 34,000. Approximately 4000 are expected to leave Cyprus before the end of the mandate but this will not begin till February ^(and will be spread over 3 1/2 months). Till then, we have a margin of only 3000. There are two large suspect ships at present known to us: the "Colonel F.C. Johnson" and the "Medina". The first is detained in the U.S., the second is on her way to Italy. There are also about a dozen smaller ships whose ~~approx~~ total capacity, at a very rough guess, might amount

29470 F.O.P.

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		1				2					

We can not, therefore, be certain of being able to continue our present policy of transferring illegal immigrants to Cyprus until the end of the mandate, though there is no immediate threat of a breakdown.

2/1

H. Beeley 27

L. E. Pyman
3/1

BAZB
3.1

2) Cyprus Ltd 37 2/1

7/1

3) *Pyramidal* 39 8/1

JB Jan 13

4) Cypress Rd 5-1171

Jan 20

1) Represented by 22%

HB. 271
48

6/ - years to 159 29/11

JB Feb. 4

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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES 2 JAN

Code

FROM CYPRUS (Commissioner for Jewish Camps)

D. 29th December, 1947.
R. 29th " " 13.00 hrs.

E / /

No. 36.

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated to High Commissioner for Palestine,
No. 62.

Situation Report, 18th - 29th December.

1.

Strength.

Increase 867 (401 men, 301 women and 151 children
arrived by S.S. OCEAN VIGOUR on 24th
December. Births 14).

Decrease 581 (285 orphans and 1 adult leader left
for Palestine on 19th December and
290 and 1 adult leader on 22nd
December by S.S. ANDREA. 4 deaths, 1
adult and 3 infants).

Total 15,623

2.

(a) Above adult's death was of a woman
arrived on OCEAN VIGOUR who fell from the lorry proceeding
to the camp.

(b) Please refer to paragraph 2 of my
telegram No. 9 (not repeated to High Commissioner for Palestine)
A further check based on limited information available shows
an increase of 5 and a decrease of 25, making a total of
15,603 which will be adopted for future reports. As to decrease
on visit to the cemetery, I ascertained the number of deaths
reported in the past did not correspond with the number of
graves, being 25 in deficit.

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 2 JAN 1948
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P.S. to Sir Orme Sargent.
 P.S. to Foreign Secretary.
 Mr. S.E.V. Luke.
 Brig. Cornwall-Jones.
 Cdr. W. Evershed, R.F.
 Mr. A.J. Hewling.
 Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.
 Mr. W. Russell-Edmunds.
 Mr. P.N.N. Synnott.
 Capt. Maunsell.
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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

En Clair

FROM CYPRUS (Lord Winster)

D. 2nd January, 1948.

R. 2nd " " 11.00 hrs.

MOST IMMEDIATE
No. 2

Your telegram No. 2.

PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT.

Exact numbers will not be known until offloading is completed and this will take several days.

2. Figure given by Jews themselves, and there is no reason to doubt its accuracy, is 15,300, in which are included some 1,700 children.

3. Your telegram was not received in time for reply by hour requested.

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P.S. to Sir Orme Sargent

P.S. to Foreign Secretary

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OUTWARD TELEGRAM

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

76021/4647

En Clair

TO CYPRUS (Lord Winster)

Sent 1st January, 1948. 16.30 hrs.

IMMEDIATE
No. 2

PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT.

Grateful if you would telegraph number of arrivals in these ships, as there are large discrepancies in reports so far received. It would be appreciated if approximate total could be telegraphed to reach me by 10 a.m. 2nd January.

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- P.S. to Foreign Secretary

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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

mw 6
E

Cypher (O.T.P.)

85 2 71

FROM CYPRUS (Commissioner of Jewish Camps)

D. 2nd January, 1948

R. 2nd " " 19.05 hrs.

No. 37 Secret.

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated to High Commissioner for Palestine, No. 64.

Situation report 29th December - 1st January, 1948.

1. Strength (excluding arrivals shown below).

Increases 702 (332 men, 237 women and 124 children arrived by s.s. OCEAN VIGOUR on 31st December. 9 births).

Decreases 557 (281 orphans, 4 sick persons and 1 adult leader left for Palestine 29th December and 270 orphans and 1 adult leader on 31st December by s.s. ANDRIA).

Total 15,748.

2. (a) PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT bringing approximately 15,400 illegal immigrants, including about 1,700 children, arrived early yesterday morning.

(b) Disembarkation is proceeding day and night and will require 3 or 4 days.

(c) About 7,000 will be placed in camps at Karasles and the remainder in two sets of camps at Xylotymbou.

(d) Immigrants are more highly organised than usual and there has been so far no trouble.

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Secretary

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E.B. Rott.

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- P.S. to War Crime Experts.
- P.S. to Foreign Secretary
- Mr. S.W. Lake.
- Brig. General-Jones.
- Gen. W. Averell, A.M.
- Mr. J. Manning.
- Mr. W.H. Blunt.
- Mr. G. Russell-Johnson.
- Mr. R.A. Lynott.
- Capt. Stansell.
- Capt. R.H. Hall-Thompson.
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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

85 2 71 13 1948

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM CYPRUS (Commissioner for Jewish Camps)

D. 8th January, 1948.

R. 8th " " 14.10 hrs.

No.39 Secret

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated to High Commissioner for Palestine, No.66.

Situation Report 1st January - 7th January.

1. Strength.

Increases 15,333. (5,701 men, 5,595 women and 4,019 children arrived by s.s. PAN YORK and s.s. PAN CRESCENT on 1st January, 1948. 18 births).

Total 31,081.

2. (a) above figures of arrivals are as finally checked into camps or hospitals. Hospital cases were about 70. Disembarkation was completed by the evening of 4th January.

(b) A.J.D.C. and the Jewish Agency are engaged in analysing these arrivals, particularly as regards children and orphans. I have already reported in my telegram No.35 repeated to the High Commissioner No.65 that infants may be 150 - 200. If, however, infants are held to be children under two, figures, including persons on ships arriving on 24th December and 31st December (see my telegrams No. 35 and No.37) will be considerably larger and will constitute fresh problem.

(c) The number of typhoid cases has again increased, due almost entirely to the absence of sanitary precautions on the part of the immigrants. Endeavour is being made to improve their co-operation, but the problem is likely to increase with the present high populations.

(d) My telegram No. 34 repeated to High Commissioner No.55. Doctor Lichtigfeld arrived 2nd January.

3. Security.

On 4th January immigrant endeavouring to escape through the wire from one camp to another at Kiyotymben was shot in the ankle by guard but not seriously hurt. Usual enquiry is proceeding.

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12 JAN

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85 2 21
INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM CYPRUS (Commissioner of Jewish Camps)

D. 15th January, 1948.
R. 15th " " 14.10 hrs.

No. 5 Secret.

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated to High Commissioner for Palestine, No. 5.

Situation Report 8th January - 14th January.

1. Strength

Increases 19 (births)
Decreases 2 (deaths)

Total 31,098.

2. Air Commodore Harvey, M.P. for Macleodfield, and Messrs. Gibson-Alan, Cowan and Gasbillion, Press Correspondents of Reuters and the Palestine Post, visited the camps on 9th January.

3. Security

Paragraph 3 of my telegram No. 3, repeated to Palestine No. 4.

Enquiries showed that several immigrants were making systematic attempts to cut the wire and shot was fired after several warnings had been given by sentry. Similar attempts to cut the wire between the two sets of camps at Kilyotymbou resulted in another shooting on 9th January, in which immigrant was wounded in the shoulder. Proximity of these two sets of camps, which are separated by a few yards only, is causing administrative difficulty, since now arrivals on the Pan ships and also immigrants on previous ships have numerous friends and relations in either camp. Military authorities are considering means of meeting the difficulty and, in the meantime, arrangements are being made for visits of near relations and immigrants have been fully warned of the results of attempts to cut the wire.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM CYPRUS (Commissioner of Jewish Camps)

D. 22nd January, 1948.
R. 22nd " " 16.45 hrs.

No. 7 Secret.

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated to High Commissioner for Palestine, No. 13.

Situation report 15th January - 21st January.

1. Strength.

Increases 19 (births)

Total 31,117.

2. There is some uneasiness in camps about delay in providing ship for January-February quota. Jewish Agency now expects to send ship on 25th January capable of lifting 460 immigrants.

3. Security.

Please see paragraph 3 of my last situation report. As regards second shooting incident, immigrant concerned had cut wire of inner perimeter during the day time and when in the "catwalk" between inner and outer perimeter threw stones at a searchlight repair party working there. On being challenged he returned to his camp, but subsequently re-entered the "catwalk" and was shot while standing there. Shot, evidently by ricochet, caused wounds in hand, abdomen and chest. His condition was serious at first but he is now recovering.

(b) There was considerable resentment at shootings in camp concerned, and British other ranks of personnel were advised by Camp Committee not to enter for some time. Position is now returning to normal.

(c) Military authorities have under consideration plans for providing access between the two sets of camps by a bridge.

(d) Local press made official request for report on these shootings, which Commander of Cyprus District considered should not be given. Cyprus Mail then published inaccurate report based on information obtained from other sources and referred to refusal to give information.

(e) An escape tunnel about 50 years long has been discovered at Xylotymbou Camps before use could be made of it.

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P.S. to Foreign Secretary.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM CYPRUS (Commissioner of Jewish Camps)

D. 29th January, 1948.
R. 29th " " 12.55 hrs.

No. 9 Secret.

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated to High Commissioner for Palestine,
No. 18.

Situation Report.

Jews - 28th January.

Strength.

Increases 32 (births)
Decreases 481 (1 death. 480 persons including
1 on immigration certificate left
for Palestine on s.s. KADMA on
26th January).

Total - 668.

2. Security.

2 escapees from Karaolos Camp apprehended.
Courts are now giving six months sentence. Since this will
mean detention beyond expiry of mandate, it is hoped it
will be deterrent.

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1948	E	E 86 11 2 JAN
	PALESTINE	

Registry Number <i>E 86/2/31</i> FROM <i>Genl Genl</i> No. <i>Admiralty</i> Dated Received in Registry } <i>S. 43.</i> <i>30 DEC</i> <i>2 JAN</i>	<i>"SETTE FRATELLI"</i> <i>Report on the SETTE FRATELLI</i> <i>dated 30 Dec 1947</i>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Last Paper. <i>85</i>	(Minutes.) This is most interesting and shows what can be done to such ships. We have since learnt, from other sources, that the "SETTE FRATELLI" was the ship that met the "GIOVANNI MARIA" in barica and transferred to her either Jews or stores or both.
References.	
(Print.)	

(How disposed of.) <i>8. Higham. 80.</i> <i>1. Robertson. 14.15</i> <i>Existed but off Jan. 7</i> <i>E. Depts. Comps.</i> <i>Admiralty, Rome,</i> <i>Jan. 7</i>	Copies to: <i>M.I. 5</i> <i>C.O.</i> <i>Admiralty Office</i> } <i>usual</i> <i>names</i> <i>and under P/L to Rome & Hungary</i>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

(Action completed.) <i>JLM/8/1</i>	(Index) <i>23/1/48</i>	Please see <i>E 12085/48/G</i> and action thereon <i>J 2/1</i>
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Next Paper. <i>87</i>	9. P.P. C. & Med. at 221738 22/1 <i>JB 27</i>
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British Consulate General
Marseilles. 12
30th December, 1947.
S 43
E 86
2 JAN
With the compliments
of
H.M. Consul-General.
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-
FO 371 / 68513

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3

From : H.M. Consul-General, Marseilles
To : Staff Officer (Intelligence) Mediterranean,
Malta.
Date : 30th December, 1947.

Confidential
S 43

The Marseilles press has recently published lengthy reports about the Italian three-masted sailing ship, SETTE FRATELLI (295 tons, length 130 feet, with auxiliary engine), which is at present at Toulon.

On 18th December, owing to bad weather, this vessel was forced to take refuge in the vicinity of the Ile de Port-Cros. She was sighted by the French coastguard service who, surprised to find that she was flying no flag, decided to go on board. The captain was asked to produce the ship's articles and eventually agreed to do so though with considerable reluctance. According to these, there should have been a crew of eight although 12 men were on board. These four "passengers" held neither passports nor identity papers.

The coastguard service decided to inform the police who, owing to the weather, were unable to embark for the island until the following day. There they found that the SETTE FRATELLI had disappeared. She was apprehended later the same day in the baie de Breignan, (flying the Italian flag), her crew arrested and the vessel towed to Toulon.

Reports of the subsequent judicial enquiry are confused. The captain stated that he was under instructions to sail from Spezia to Marseilles where he was to receive further orders from an unspecified individual. One newspaper contains a statement by the police that the ship was equipped to carry 200 passengers and had considerable quantities of food on board. Another paper (not noted for its veracity) quotes the captain as stating that he embarked 600 illegal Jewish immigrants at Spezia and transferred them to smaller ships at sea.

A report, which we are inclined to believe, states that the captain refused to give a satisfactory explanation of the ship's activities. It is thought that the SETTE FRATELLI is engaged (a) in transporting illegal immigrants or (b) in transporting fascists and war criminals from Italy to Spain or (c) had come to the South of France to take off certain criminals condemned to death who recently escaped from a gaol in the Marseilles district. We do not however consider that this ship is engaged in the Jewish traffic since, in our experience, the crews of such ships are well provided with papers and usually contrive to conform to the various formalities required by French law.

During the past few days, the crew of the SETTE FRATELLI have been released following representations by the Italian Consul-General. The ship is still at Toulon but its cargo of food has been impounded. We shall keep you in touch with further developments.

We are copying this report to the Chancery, British Embassy, Paris and to Eastern Department, Foreign Office.

For H.M. Consul-General.

61

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IN

pw.

221738A/January.

From C. in C. Med.

Date 22.1.48.

Rec'd 1,800.

SECRET

Addressed Admiralty D.N.I.
Info. N.O.I.C. Port Said, for S.O.I.L.E.M. Compal.

IMPORTANT

Reporting officer Marseilles reports SETTE FRATELLI sailed Toulon a.m. 22nd January nominally bound Genoa. No passengers on board but rumoured she may embark illegals on coast.

221738A

Advance copies D.C. and R.C.
sent 1930/22nd.

1st Lord
1st S L (3)
V C N S
A C N S
U S S
O D (8)
D C (2)
M (8)
D N I (5)
D of P (2)
D of P (Q)
C N I (2)
R.C.

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1948

E

E 87

15

2 JAN

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 87/2/31

Pearl Harbor

Marshall

S.I.

27 Dec

2 Jan

Target Shipping Report.
 Documents reported shipping
 at Marshall for two weeks ending
 26 Dec 1947.

Last Paper.

E 86

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Scherr, M.I.S.
 Jan. 3

2nd P.P. (3)

8, Scherr, M.I.S.
 Jan 15th

2nd P.P. (3)

8, Scherr, M.I.S.
 Jan 28

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

E 88

1044

26513 F.O.P.

(Minutes.)

Copy to M.I.S. (Mr. Scherr)

2) B.G. Marshall 9/1

Copy to M.I.S. (Mr. Scherr)

3) B.G. Marshall 16/1

Copy M.I.S. (Mr. Scherr)

JB Jan 28

4) B.G. Marshall 23/1

Copy M.I.S. (Mr. Scherr)

JB Jan 30

5) B.G. Marshall 5/2

JB Feb 10

6) B.G. Marshall 11/2

JB Feb 21

P.T.O.

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7) I.P.P. of Marcellus 2/12 JB Mar 11
 8) - - 12/3 JB Mar - 17
 9) - - 20/3 JB Apr 5
 10) - - 1/4 JB Apr. 16

I.P.P. (4)
 S. D. Scherr.
 M.I.S.
 Jan 30

I.P.P. (5)
 S. D. Scherr.
 Feb 10th

I.P.P. (6)
 S. D. Scherr
 Feb 21st

I.P.P. (7)
 S. D. Scherr. M.I.S.
 Mar 9th

I.P.P. (8)
 S. D. Scherr. M.I.S.
 Mar. 17th

I.P.P. (9)
 S. D. Scherr / M.I.S.
 Apr 5

I.P.P. (10)
 S. D. Scherr / M.I.S.
 April 15

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17
British Consulate-General,
Paris.

10th December, 1947.

S.O. 17
81
BY bus.

Dear General Sir,

I am sorry to hear that you are unable to
visit the British Consulate-General in Paris
before your departure for the United States
which ended 10th December, 1947:-

Yours faithfully,

I am sending this letter to the British
Department, Foreign Office.

Yours faithfully,
British Consulate,
Paris.

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SECRET.
S 1.

87 2 71 E
HIS Majesty's Consul-General at Marseilles
presents his compliments to Eastern Dept. F.O.
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

British Consulate-General,
.....Marseilles.....

18

9th January, 1948

Reference to previous correspondence:

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.

Subject.

Report on suspect shipping.
9th January, 1948.

3479A 27428-1 (4)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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British Consulate-General,
Marseilles.

9th January, 1940.

19

FOC/aw
Secret.
81.

Dear General,

With regard to the situation at Marseilles and at other ports in our consular district during the two weeks ended 9th January, 1940:-

"Marseilles" - No change.

"Marseilles" - Still at Marseilles.

"Marseilles" - Still at Marseilles.

Foreign Office, London, 10th January, 1940.

Yours ever,
[Signature]

The Consul,
British Embassy,
Paris.

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British Consulate-General,
Marseilles.

16th January, 1948. 20

Secret.
S1.

87/2/1 E
RECEIVED

With the compliments
of

H.M. Consul-General.

(Weekly suspect shipping report)

The Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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21
British Consulate-General,
Marseilles.

16th January, 1942.

FCRG/v
S. C. F. 1-31

Dear General,

Which all will investigate. The following is a report on the situation at Marseilles and at other ports in our Consular district during the week ending 15th January, 1942:-

- "MUSCADO" - No change.
- "MUSCADO" - Engine repairs have been completed and ship is expected to leave Marseilles in the near future. Her agents there are Robert and Delapierre, a firm which has so far been above suspicion. It is confirmed that this ship can carry 20 passengers.
- "MUSCADO" - Arrived at Marseilles from Paris on 10th January with a small cargo and is still here. Her agents are Delapierre.

I am copying this letter to the Customs Department, Foreign Office.

Yours ever,

W. H. Allen.

The O. H. B.,
British Consulate,
Marseilles.

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6

22
British Consulate-General,
Marseilles.

23rd January, 1948.

Secret S4

INDEXED

E 87 / 2 / R1

With the compliments
of
H.M. Consul-General.

(Weekly suspect shipping report)

The Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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24

Secret. S1.

5th February, 1948.

87 2 71

With the compliments
of
H.M. Consul-General.

(Report on suspect shipping)

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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British Consulate-General,
Alexandria.

25

1th February, 1940.

Secret. 81.
P&C/GW

Dear Chancery,

Jewish illegal immigration. In reply to the
despatch of our bag enabled us to send you the following
additional information about the movement of suspect
ships during the period 5th January - 30th February,
1940:-

"Alma" - left in ballast for London on
2nd February.

"Mikhael" - reported to have arrived
at Alexandria from Haifa on 3rd
February with about 25 tons of
normal cargo.

As previously stated, our next general report
on suspect shipping will be rendered on 28th February
but any important developments occurring in the
meantime will be notified by telegram.

We are so glad this letter to Eastern Command,
Foreign Office.

Yours very truly,

(Signature)

The Consul,
British Consulate,
Alexandria.

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11th February, 1948.

Secret S1

With the compliments
of
H.M. Consul-General.

(Weekly suspect shipping report)

The Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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<i>Reference:-</i> FO 371 / 68513					
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11th February, 1948.

27

Dear Chancery,

Illegal Jewish immigration. The following is a report of the situation at Marseilles and at other ports in our Consular district during the week ended 11th February, 1948 :-

"ARCHANGELOS" - No change.

"ALCAENA" - Arrived in ballast from Genoa on 7th February and is listed for departure for Morocco on 15th February, 1943.

"EASIER
CIRO" - Left for Tunis in ballast
on 14th February, 1948;
departure has not been reported
in local port lists.

"YANGOS" - still at Marseilles.

We are copying this letter to the Eastern Department, Foreign Office.

Yours ever,

Marcelles.

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Paris.

10

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27th February, 1948.

87 2 71

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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27th February, 1948

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Paris.

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29
RECEIVED
British Consulate-General,
Marseilles.
12th March, 1948.
Secret
S1
87 2 31
With the compliments
of
H.M. Consul-General.
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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30

GW/S1
Secret.

Illegal Jewish immigration. The following is a report of the situation at Marseilles and at other ports in our Consular district during the fortnight ended 12th March, 1948 :-

We are copying this letter to the Eastern Department, Foreign Office.

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Paris.

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32
British Consulate General,
Marseilles,
March 20th 1948.

S.1.
DP/dp

Dear Chancery,

Illegal Jewish Immigration.

The following is a report of the situation
at Marseilles and at other ports in our Consular
district during the week ending March 19th 1948.

ARKANGILOS	No Change.
MOITTE MANTO	Still in Marseilles.
CUOR GEGU	Arrived Port de Bouc from Sfax March 7th, left for and arrived at Sete March 11th.
MASSIMINO GIRO	Arrived at La Nouvelle from Licata March 11th, called Port St Louis du Rhône, 16th March, Sete March 18th and left for Tunis.
MAYER HOFFA	Still in La Seyne.

We are copying this letter to the
Eastern Department, Foreign Office.

Chancery,
British Embassy
Paris.
Yours ever,
Marseilles

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33

87 2 71

Dear Chancery,

INDEXED

ARKANGELOS... No change.

MONTE SANTO..left on March 19th via la
Nouvelle for Casablanca with
112 tons of cargo.

MADRE MARIA.. left La Seyne for Savona
on March 20th.

ADA (new suspect raised in your telegram
no 24 of March 26th) arrived Marseill
from Spezia in ballast on March 17th
and left with cement for Toulon on
March 22nd.

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Paris.

3

Public Record Office

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1948	E	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> E 88 2 JAN </div>
	PALESTINE	

Registry Number **E88/2/31**

FROM **Legation**

No. **10/14**

Dated **386**

Received in Registry **24 Dec 2 Jan**

"Ten Canal" and "Ten Fork"

Rpt. Sept 11 1958 (C12265/54/31) Transmits copy of letter to Bulgarian Mili Foreign Affairs dated 24 Dec re Bulgarian boat arrivals in the proximity of illegal immigrant traffic.

Last Paper.

E87

References.

E10084/48/5

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Southern Deft. - 6/1

2/5/1

(Action completed.) <i>9 Feb 2/1</i>	(Index.) <i>24/1/58</i>
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Next Paper.

E93

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No. 386
(155/47)

HIS Majesty's Minister at Sofia
presents his compliments to H.M. Principal Secretary
of State for Foreign Affairs
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

British Legation,.....
Sofia,.....

Bulgaria,..... 2 JAN

24th Dec., 1947.

Reference to previous correspondence: E 12265/47

Sofia tel No. 1588 to Foreign Office
Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Letter to Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs dated 24.12.47.	Illegal immigration into Palestine.

Copies have also been sent to:

Bucharest	No. 28
Washington	88
Jerusalem	4
U.K. Del. New York	8

35

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21th December, 1947.

27/12/47

My dear Minister,

I had occasion to make various representations both written and oral to Your Excellency's predecessor with a view to invoking the aid of the Bulgarian Government in preventing the embarkation from Bulgaria of a large number of alleged immigrants into Palestine. I would refer in particular to my notes, numbered Nos. 227 of October 1st and 257 of October 11th, to my conversation with Mr. Simon Georgiev on October 2nd and 10th, and to my letter to him of October 17th.

I understand that the two you have just mentioned, and "New York" refer to in the letter left Constantinople on December 22nd and December 23rd respectively, and it is possible that they may already be in a Bulgarian port where reports have reached me to the effect that a considerable number of Jews desiring to enter Palestine are or have recently been in course of transit by road or rail from Rumania to Bulgarian ports.

I would draw Your Excellency's attention to the last paragraph of my letter of October 17th to Mr. Simon Georgiev which states that none of these Jews can possibly be in possession of a valid permit to enter Palestine and that any claim that they are proceeding to any other destination ought to be the subject of most searching investigation in view of the wide traffic lanes of the illegal Bulgarian traffic.

I cannot believe that in the present critical state of the Palestine problem the Bulgarian Government will wish to assume the responsibility of allowing

Bulgarian

His Excellency,
M. Vassil Kolarov,
Vice President of the Council of Ministers,
and Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Sofia.

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-1-

Belgian ports to be utilized for this traffic;
and I would earnestly beg your Excellency to take,
as a matter of urgency, all possible steps to see
that embarkation into these two transport ships are
prevented.

Believe me, my dear Minister,

Yours very sincerely,

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9

E

E 108

37

1948

PALESTINE

3 JAN

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E108/2/31

80 Morales

Panama

Legation

cc 586

71 Dec

3 Jan

Panama and Pan York

R/A Morales letter 2553 of Oct/E10470/
84/1. Ship leaving for both ships
in case of the Panamanian Register on
expectation of other "Petate Morales"
on 25 Oct and 5 Nov.

Last Paper.

93

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Sgt. Panamanian
Legation

Jan. 9

Mr. Greenway Panama
(with ref)

Jan 9

Del Panama 15
Rptd Rome 176
Genoa 5 Jan 22

(Action
completed)

L E 10/1

(Index)

176
176/1/1

Next Paper.

(E251)

E 132

(Minutes.)

The remarkable feature of the Panamanian
Legation's action is the two months delay
between the withdrawal of registration
and its notification to us. This has
almost entirely destroyed the value of
their action. It is, however, satisfactory
that they should at least have complied
with our request. I imagine that this is
largely due to Señor Morales, whom we
should thank. On the other hand, we
must clearly complain of the delay in informing
us. Nor can we allow Señor Morales' dig
at Mrs. Greenway to pass.

I suggest that we should
combine thanks and reproof by sending
a friendly reply to Señor Morales personally
and a stiff ^{official} note to the Charge
& Affairs. I submit drafts accordingly.
Copy to: H.M. Legation, Panama.

N.A. Dept.
29470 F.O.P.

Palmer
(J. B. C. 1848)
5/1

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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8, P.P.P
Tan 26 on
E1167

By S. Davis
Juno

I entirely agree with the action proposed by the Beth. The Panamanian Govt. were obviously determined to sit on the fence until the vessels were actually carrying the illegal immigrants. So as to avoid any inconveniences for themselves that might have resulted if registration had been officially withdrawn before they ^{vessels} were caught in the act. We have nothing to thank them for & the Hon. Mr. Morales' letter is quite uncalled for. Not even the well-known inefficiency of the Panamanian

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Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Panama MPA, can
explain away this
failure to ship the
freeway of this
decision soon.

Hepleas.

7/1.

JD Jun 8

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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LEGACION DE PANAMA

No. JL-586
EAM

London, 31st December, 1947

Dear Mr. Cable, 3 JAN

I refer to our telephone conversation of this morning.

Also please refer to the letter sent by me to Mr. Beith, No. JL-553 of 6th October, 1947 and especially to the contents of the last two paragraphs.

I now officially confirm what I said to you verbally when I stated that the "Patentes Provisionales" of the s.s. "PAN CRESCENT" and of the s.s. "PAN YORK" which expired on the 25th October, 1947 and the 5th November, 1947, respectively, had not, and would not be renewed by the Government. Consequently, no "Patentes Permanentes" would be issued. All this means that upon the expiration of the said "Patentes Provisionales", on the 25th October and 5th November, both vessels were struck off the Panamanian Register, automatically.

I have no doubt that the decision of the Government not to renew the Patentes is due to the fact that the Owners of the said vessels were unable to remove the suspicions of the British Government. I am somewhat surprised that the British Consular and Diplomatic representatives in Panama should not have apprised themselves of this most vital information. In my letter to Mr. Beith I clearly defined the position as it was then and even went so far as to anticipate what I thought would be the result of the investigation carried out by my Government.

I would be very grateful if you would kindly pass on the above information to the Secretary of State and to the News Department of the Foreign Office.

Yours sincerely

Eusebio A. Morales

J.E. Cable, Esq.,
Esatern Department
Foreign Office, S.W.1

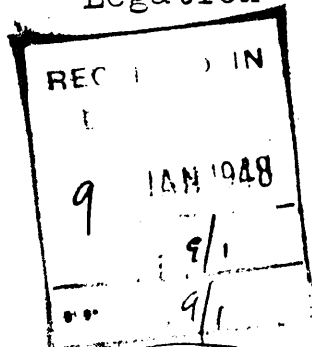
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68513					
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Registry
No. E108/2/31

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

The Panamanian
Legation



With letter
under refce.

Copy Mr
Greenway,
Panama
P. R.
N.A. Dept. Int
J.B. Seint
Jan 6

(officially)

Mr. M. at Panama
was notified of the
Panamanian Govt's
decision for the
first time on
Jan. 5. Until
that date he
received no
reply whatever
to his official
representations on
this subject.

OUT FILE

9/12
9 Jan 40

The Foreign Office present their compliments to the Panamanian Legation and have the honour to acknowledge receipt of their semi-official letter No. CL-586 of December 31st, about the registration of the Jewish Illegal Immigrant ships "PAN YORK" and "PAN CRESCENT".

The Foreign Office note that the provisional patents of the two vessels, which expired on October 25th and November 5th 1947, have not been, and will not now be, renewed. In view of the numerous representations made by the British Authorities to the Panamanian Authorities on this subject, the Foreign Office ^{would have} expected to receive official notification of the Panamanian decision not to continue the registration of as soon as it was made. Without such notification it was not possible for them to take further steps with the Governments concerned to prevent the sailing of the ships. As it was, the information contained in the Legation's letter was received at the moment when the two ships, carrying approximately 15,169 Jewish Illegal Immigrants, were being intercepted by the Royal Navy; White

The Foreign Office, therefore, express the hope that, in any future case of this kind, the Panamanian Government will be good enough to notify their intention with regard to registration as soon as a decision is made and thereby enable their co-operative action to bear its full fruit.

J.B. Jan 8

Foreign Office,
6th January 1948.

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FO 371 / 68513

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(33054) WL14806/147 75,000 6/47 A & E.V. Ltd. Gp. 685

41
No. E 108/2/31.

The Foreign Office present their compliments to the Panamanian Legation and have the honour to acknowledge receipt of their semi-official letter No. CL-586 of the 31st December, about the registration of the Jewish Illegal Immigrant ships "Pan York" and "Pan Crescent".

2. The Foreign Office note that the provisional patents of the two vessels, which expired on the 25th October and the 5th November, 1947, have not been, and will not now be, renewed. In view of the numerous representations made by the British Authorities to the Panamanian Authorities on this subject, the Foreign Office would have expected to receive official notification of the Panamanian decision not to continue the registration of these ships as soon as it was made. Without such notification it was not possible for them to take further steps with the Governments concerned to prevent the sailing of the ships. As it was, the information contained in the Legation's letter was received at the moment when the two ships, carrying approximately 15,169 Jewish Illegal Immigrants, were being intercepted by the Royal Navy; while His Majesty's Minister at Panama was officially notified of the Panamanian Government's decision for the first time on the 5th January. Until that date he received no reply whatsoever to his official representations on this subject.

3. The Foreign Office, therefore, express the hope that, in any future case of this kind, the Panamanian Government will be good enough to notify their intention with regard to registration as soon as a decision is made and thereby enable their co-operative action to bear its full fruit.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

9th January, 1948.

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Registry
No.

Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Unclassified

CYPHER

22nd January 1948

Despatched

M.

Draft.

Panama

Telegram

No. 15

(Date) 9 Jan 48

Repeat to:-

Rome 176

Genoa 176

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

For Clair.
Code
Cypher.

Distribution :-
Departmental

Copies to :-
I.I.P.

3.50P

IMPORTANT
CONFIDENTIAL

Add. Panama tel. no 15 of Jan 22nd.
Rept into Rome & Genoa
My telegram No. 3 of January 10th:
Jewish Illegal Immigration

Is there any question of "Medina" being registered under a "provisional patent" ^{due to expire} as transpired ^{was the position} of the "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York". Panamanian Consulate General in London claimed ^(too late) that we could have treated the two "Pans" as flagless vessels since their "provisional patents" expired in October and November respectively (see BEITH's letter of Jan 10 and covers. under P/L E 108/2/31)

2. Please report position with particular reference to details of "Medina's" registry.

It might be useful to look into exact position of "Medina's" registry (which could possibly be done through Consular ^{or shipping} channels without incurring delay inherent in dealing with My. of F.A. on a higher level). Please report position.

copy sent to Genoa 18 Jan 22

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FO 371/68513

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43

Cypher /OTP
Confidential

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PANAMA

No. 15
22nd January, 1948

D. 2.00 a.m. 23rd January, 1948

Repeated to Rome No. 176
Genoa No. 5

IMPORTANT

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Panama telegram No. 15 of 22nd January,
repeated for information to Rome and Genoa.

My telegram No. 3 [of 10th January: Jewish Illegal
Immigration].

Is there any question of "Medina" being registered
under a "provisional patent" due to expire, as it
transpired was the position of the "Pan Crescent" and
"Pan York". Panamanian Consulate General in London
claimed (too late) that we could have treated the two
"Pans" as flagless vessels since their "provisional
patents" expired in October and November respectively
(see Beith's letter of 10th January and correspondence
under P/L E 108/2/31)

2. It might be useful to look into exact position
of "Medina's" registry (which could possibly be done
through Consular or shipping channels without inviting
delay inherent in dealing with Ministry of Foreign Affairs
on a higher level). Please report position.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

FPP

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FO 371 / 68513					
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E

E 132

3 JAN

1948

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

E132/2/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

M Kay

Dated

Marseille

Received

in Registry

1.

2 Jan

3 Jan

Last Paper.

108

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, I.P.P. (on E140/2/31)
Jan 5(Action
completed.)

G. L. M. f.

(Index.)

23/1/48

Next Paper.

E 140

Illegal Immigrant Ship.

Refers Paris tel to M. Cassin 189.

Ship arrived in 1. London. Food supply has
been impounded by French authorities and there
is no information of alleged French traffics.

ANALYSTED PARIS No 1

(Minutes.)

3/1

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371 / 68513

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Cypher/OTF

E 132

3 JAN

DEPARTMENTAL

E 45

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Kay

No. 1

2nd January, 1948

D. 5.41 p.m. 2nd January, 1948

R. 7.30 p.m. 2nd January, 1948

Addressed to Paris No. 1 of 2nd January repeated
to Foreign Office. *Paris to Marseille*

Your telegram No. 189.

Illegal immigration.

Ship named is still at Toulon. Food supply has
been impounded by French authorities and there is no
confirmation of alleged Jewish traffic.

Please see my report to Chancery and Eastern
Department by bag 31st December.

[Copy sent to M.E. Secretariat]

adddddd



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FO 371 / 68513

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12

1948

E

PALESTINE

E 141 46

5 JAN

Registry Number *E 141/2/31*

TELEGRAM FROM
W. Wilson

No. *Algeria*

Dated *1.*

Received in Registry *2 Jan*

Illegal Immigration

the detained French women bet. Algeria
may now be considered for all prospective
Illegal Immigrants for Palestine.

Last Paper.

140

(Minutes.)

References.

Mr. Wilson will presumably
expand this statement in a despatch.
As it stands, one can not estimate the
reliability of the information.

(Print.)

Western Dept. 7/1

JSB
(5-2-48)

(How disposed of.)

8, 9, 9.P. (on E/140/2/31)
Jan 5

JB Jan 5

(Action completed.)

28/1/49

(Index.)

28/1/49

Next Paper.

142

30471 F.O.P

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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2					

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AMENDMENT SLIP

DEPARTMENTAL

For preamble please read "Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No: 1 January 2nd repeated to Tunis and Malta".



8/2/1

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 68513

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Cypher/OTP

E 147
5 JAN DEPARTMENTAL

FROM ALGIERS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Wilson
No. 1

D. 6.30 p.m. 2nd January 1948.

2nd January 1948. R. 10.09 p.m. 2nd January 1948.

Repeated to [grps.undec.]

SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1 January 2nd,
repeated [grps.undec.].

Have obtained official assurance that Algeria may now
be considered clear of all prospective illegal immigrants
for Palestine.

[Repetition of undecypherable groups being obtained].

rrrrrr

JAN 1948
6 5 4 3 2 1

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68513					
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Group.....FO.....
Class.....371.....
Piece.....68513.....

E 140/2/31

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144

E

E 147 69

PALESTINE

5 JAN

Registry Number E147/2/1

FROM

No.

Dated 3204/558/101

Received in Registry 25 JAN

5 JAN

1/10/1 I have been informed.
1/10/1 (E147/2/1) Legal Advisor
reports that, p. 10 of the report has been
referred to the Director who would have requested
with it the report from the office of the Director
and a draft of the report has subsequently been
in the Director's office. The report
is dated 1/10/1 (E147/2/1) and is in the Director's
office.

Last Paper.

E142

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Library 6/1
T. W. 1/1
W. W. 1/1
W. W. 1/1

5/1

(Action completed.)

1/1/1

(Index.)

1/1/1

Next Paper.

E148

29470 F.O.P.

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FO 371 / 68513					
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By Bag

E 147

3204/558/161

5 JAN

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL

TUNIS

23rd December, 1947

Confidential.

Dear Department,

Thank you for your letter of the 24th October last, A.9384/84/31, confidential, regarding the extension or otherwise to Tunisia of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea and the International Load Line Convention.

2. Our legal adviser confirms that, if the Conventions had been rendered applicable to Tunisia, action would have originated with metropolitan France on behalf of Tunisia and a decree or notice been subsequently published in the Journal Officiel Tunisien. We can find no trace of any such publication and the statement made by the official of the Ministry of Transport as embodied in paragraph 2 of Paris telegram No.244 saving of the 7th October 1947 to you is therefore doubtless correct.

3. We are sending a copy of this letter to Paris with reference to their above-quoted telegram.

Yours ever,

Tunis Consulate General



The Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London S.W.1.

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Reference -					
FO 371 / 68513					
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15

E

E 148

51

1948

PALESTINE

5 JAN

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E148/2/31

General General

New York

J. D. Morrison

22 Nov
5-500

Illegal immigrant ship
copy of letter to J. D. Morrison 10 Jan / 22 Nov
referring to previous letter of 17 Nov (E11050/84/31)
Morrison R. G. has now shown copy of reply
which he has received from J. D. Morrison and
stated to his colleagues that the intentions of
the speakers of the two ships at Constanta.

Last Paper.

147

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

3, Higham. 80
Robertson. M.I. 5
Enrolled Out off
✓ Jan. 9

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

J. D. Morrison 12/1
22/1/48

Next Paper.

E 155

(Minutes.)

Copies as for E11050/84/31

N.A. Def. P.
12/1.

5/1

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 68513

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NEW YORK 4.

22nd December, 1947.

*Forwarded with the
Compliments of the British Consul General
at New York*

North American Department,
Foreign Office, 5 JAN
London, S.W.1.

JKO'D:ACW

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:—**FO**

371 / 68513

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BRITISH CONSULATE-GENERAL,

NEW YORK 4. 53

22nd December, 1947.

CONFIDENTIAL

Would you please refer to my letter of November 17th about the ships in Constanza.

The Panamanian Consul General has now shown us (as from one Consul to another) the reply which he has received from Messrs. Foley & Statt to his enquiry as to the intentions of the operators of the two ships. The reply was dated November 20th and contained the following information:

The F. & B. Shipping Co. was incorporated under Panamanian laws on March 17th, 1947, Messrs. ARIAS & ARIAS of Panama City being the resident agents of the company.

The F. & B. Shipping Co. bought the S.S. "Pan York" and "Pan Crescent", on May 5th and April 24th respectively, from the United Fruit S.S. Corporation; both ships were registered as Panamanian by the Panamanian Consulate-General in New York; the U.S. Maritime Commission recorded the transfers in their orders No. C 5370 and C 5371.

Both ships sailed for European ports with general cargo. The "Pan Crescent" eventually left Venice on September 26th for Constanza and the "Pan York" left Genoa on September 29th for Istanbul. On arrival at those ports the vessels were sold by the F. & B. Shipping Co. to new owners. In these circumstances it was clear that, while in the ownership of the F. & B. Shipping Co., the ships could not have been employed in illegal immigration traffic to Palestine. Messrs. Foley & Statt became aware of the sale of the ships only in the course of the

.....

W. Denis Allen, Esq.,
British Embassy,
Washington, D.C.

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5



I am sending copies of this letter to the Chancery, Panama, and to the North American Department.

S^t F.E. EVANS.


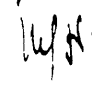
JKO'D:ACW

6

Group.....FO
Class.....371
Piece.....68513

E155/2/31

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE												<i>Reference:-</i> FO 371 / 68513											
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												COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH- OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON											

		Palestine	E179 /G
		EASTERN	
2 E 179 12/31/6 Athens 425 Dated 19 Dec		Addendum No 2 to Black List of ships suspected of Jewish illegal immigration	
Last Paper E33 References E10329/48/9. (Print) (How disposed of)		(Minutes) 	
(Action completed) 25/1	(Index) 	Next Paper	

34092

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3479A 30582—1 (8)

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5

[illegible]

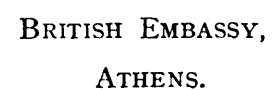
His Majesty's Embassy avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the Royal Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs the assurance of their highest consideration.

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FO 371 / 68513

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No.



30th December, 1947

Chan c ry

Herewith enclosure omitted from
our P/L Despatch No.425 of 19th
December, 1947.

Foreign Office,
London, S. 1.1.

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59

Gen/102/16.

SECRET

DD FORM No. 2
TO

LIST OF GREEK NATIONALS, COMPANIES AND SHIPPING

AGENTS KNOWN OR SUSPECTED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE JEWISH ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION TRAFFIC TO

PALESTINE AND OF VESSELS OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THEM.

1. Part 2 (iii), page 10.
and INDEX FOKLAS, George Delete: no longer considered suspect.
2. Part 2 (iii), pages 10-11.
D'ANDRIE, Stefano)
GIMSTBY & Co.)
M/TOMER, Rudi.)
MAVRIS, Nicolaos)
..... To be considered as principal and not
minor associates of the ELIADIS - FOSTINIS
Group.
3. Part 2 (iv), page 15.
and INDEX s.s. COLOM TRADER }
s.s. BLITZ } Delete: no longer considered suspect.
4. Part 3 (i), page 17.
WICKERSHAW and CHANCE Delete: substitute WICKERSHAW and CHANCE.
5. Part 3 (iii), page 20.
and INDEX P. VIGGIE RICHARDSON Delete: cleared of complicity.

19

1948

E

PALESTINE

E 192 60

5 JAN

Registry Number E 192/2/31
TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. V. Mollet
No. Rome - 7.
Dated
Received in Registry 3 Jan
5 -

Trans. Illegal Immigration
Apr 1st 1941 (C10087/49/3) The proposed
transfer of that section of the Austrian boat
which is liable to be liable in support of
Vassal 1174 is open up a new Legal route
for Transit Immigration to Italy through the
British zone. Previous plans.

Last Paper.

E 189

(Minutes.)

12/1

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

10/1/13/1

(Index.)

10/1/13/1

Next Paper.

E 204

30471 F.O.P

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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FO 371 / 68513					
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Original message
Copy for E 192

5 JAN

Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC DISTRIBUTION.

FROM ROME TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir V. Mallet D. 4.40 p.m. 3rd January 1948
No. 7 R. 5.18 p.m. 3rd January 1948

3rd January 1948.
Repeated to Vienna.

SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 7 of
January 3rd repeated for information to Vienna.

Your telegram No. 2741: Jewish Illegal
Immigration.

The proposed transfer of travel control to the
Austrian Government would no doubt be liable, as
suggested in paragraph 6 of Vienna telegram No. 1174,
to open up a new "legal" route for Jewish immigrants
to Italy through the British zone. We cannot judge
from here how serious this proposal is but, to the
extent that it materialised, the Italian authorities
would have to extend their police forces to cover the
frontier with the British zone in greater strength
than has so far been required. We doubt whether the
Italian Government would be willing to spare police for
this purpose and there would therefore be a danger
that more Jews would succeed in entering Italy.

2. If you are prepared to take this risk, however,
we do not think that the Italian Government's
cooperation in preventing illegal immigration would
be affected within the limits which their resources
allowed.

Foreign Office please repeat to Vienna as my
telegram No. 2.

[Repeated to Vienna].

V V V

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E

E 204

62

1948

PALESTINE

JAN

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 204/2/31

Legation

Panama

11/N.

30/1/48
6 Jan

Target: Panama
 of 1948 (E 204/2/31) of 14.
 Summary of part 1941-1942
 of 1948, a summary of the relations
 of the Government of Panama with
 the United States of America including
 the United States of America.

Last Paper.

E 192.

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Nigham. 60
 Robertson M.I.S.
~~Robertson~~ Bob off
 ✓ Jan. 9

(Action
completed.)

J. L. M. 12/1

(Index.)

24/1/48

Next Paper.

E 206

(E 345)

(Minutes.)

Copies to:

C.O.
M.I.S.

Reference office

usual
namesN.A. Delis
10/1

John
 (J. L. M. 12/1)

JD Jan 6

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371 / 68513

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No.

63
HIS Majesty's Minister at panama
presents his compliments to H.M. Principal Secretary of
State for Foreign Affairs
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

British Legation,
panama.

E 204

107 15 JAN
Reference to previous correspondence: 30th Dec. 1947.
Foreign Office letter (E 197/84/51) No. 129 dated
24th Dec. 1947.
Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Minister for Foreign Relations. 30th December 1947.	Jewish illegal immigration traffic to Palestine.

3479A 25019-2 (4)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68513					
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Oo. 141

BRITISH LEGATION,
PANAMA.
30th December 1947

Monsieur le Ministre,

Your Excellency will no doubt be aware of the repeated representations which on instructions from my government I have addressed to your Excellency's predecessors, Mr. Alfaro and Mr. Pilos, regarding the desire of my government that the Panamanian authorities should withdraw national registration from certain ships engaged in the illegal immigration traffic to Palestine.

However I cannot believe that your Excellency is aware that these representations have remained unanswered by the Ministry of Foreign Relations, with the exception of a note addressed to me on September 4th last by Mr. Pilos in which further information regarding these ships was requested.

Moreover on October 18th, the Ministry of Foreign Relations issued to the press a lengthy and inaccurate communiqué on this subject. I was not supplied officially with a copy of this document, nor have I been vouchsafed any further communication by the Ministry on this subject up to the present time.

My government have instructed me to express to your Excellency their surprise and regret that these urgent representations should have received such unusual treatment.

At the same time, I am further instructed to renew my representations on the subject of the S.S. PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT both of which vessels were recently at Constantza and about to sail for Palestine. Indeed, I learn from an Associated Press telegram reproduced in the Panamanian press that these ships actually left Constantza for Palestine on December 28th.

In any case I understand that the provisional patents granted to these two ships are due to expire at any moment, if indeed they have not already expired.

I am addressing a separate note to your Excellency regarding the misstatement contained in the communiqué referred to above.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest consideration,
Monsieur le Ministre,
your Excellency's most obedient servant,

(Sd.) JOHN D. GREENWAY.

His Excellency
The Minister for Foreign Relations,
Panama, P. .

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no. 142

BRITISH LEGATION,
PANAMA.
30th december 1947

Monsieur le Ministre,

In my note No. 141 of today's date regarding the s.s. PAN
CRENSHAW and PAN YORK I stated that the communiqué issued to the press
on October 18th by the Ministry of foreign relations contained certain
misstatements and inaccuracies.

For example, in paragraph 7 of that document the Legal Adviser of the Panamanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is quoted as saying that "there are no grounds for proceeding with the cancellation of the registry of the vessels PRESIDENT WARFIELD, TRADE WINDS, PADUCAH, NORTHLANDS, PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT, all of which are owned by the A.F. & B. Shipping Company." The PRESIDENT WARFIELD was not a Panamanian but a Panadoranean ship and has, therefore, nothing to do with the immediate point at issue. The TRADE WINDS, PADUCAH, and NORTHLANDS, however, were all Panamanian ships which arrived in Palestine waters with Jewish illegal immigrants on board. The numbers carried by each ship and the dates of their arrival in Palestine waters were as follows:

TRADE WINDS - (owned by Western Trading Company of New York)
arrived on 18th May with 1,411 Jewish illegal immigrants
on board.

on board.
 (owned by Montrose Shipping Company of New York)
 arrived on 2nd October with 1,335 Jewish illegal immigrants
 on board.

NORTHLANDS - (owned by weston Trading Company of New York)
arrived on 2nd October with 2,664 Jewish illegal immigrants
on board.

These Jews were brought into Palestine waters in defiance of the Immigration Ordinance 1941, which provides for the punishment of the owners, officers and crew of any vessels engaged in this traffic. No doubt can conceivably exist that these three vessels were engaged in the illicit traffic.

There would thus appear to be no foundation whatever for the implication in the communiqué that no grounds exist for the withdrawal of registration.

The question of illegal immigration into Palestine is one of immediate concern not only to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, but to the world at large and not least to the unfortunate dupes who are being exploited by unscrupulous persons enjoying the protection afforded by Palestinian registration. In this connexion may I draw your Excellency's attention to the resolution passed on the 17th November by the General Assembly of the United Nations which ran as follows:- "The General Assembly invites Member States not to accord aid and protection to individuals or organizations which are engaged in the promoting or operating of illegal immigration or any activities designed to promote illegal immigration."

I would accordingly request your excellency in all earnestness to reconsider this matter as a question of immediate and serious importance.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest consideration,
Monsieur le Ministre,
your Excellency's most obedient servant

(sgd.) JOHN D. GREENWAY.

His Excellency
The Minister for Foreign Relations,
Panama, R.P.

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23

E

E 251

66

1948

PALESTINE

JAN

Registry
Number

E 251/2/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

W. Greenway

Dated

Received

in Registry

Panama

1.

5 Jan

6

Panama and New York

Note received 5/1 from the Foreign Office states
negotiation of New York and Panama Canal now
officially concluded.

Last Paper.

(108)

212

References.

(Minutes.)

See E108 & action

to Jan 6

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. P.P. (ex E 182/2/31)
✓ Jan 7(Action
completed.)

J.C.M. 10/1

(Index)

J.C.M. 10/1

Next Paper.

E 308

30471 F.O.P

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En Clair

E 251

6 JAN

DEPARTMENTAL

67

FROM PANAMA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr Greenway D. 6. 40 p.m. 5th January, 1948.
No. 1
5th January, 1948. R. 5. 50 a.m. 6th January, 1948.

Repeated Washington Saving

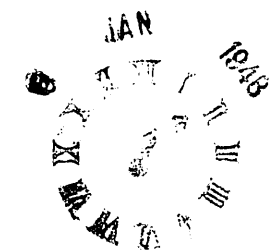
IMPORTANT

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram 1 of 5th
January repeated Saving to Washington.

Jewish illegal immigration.

Note received today from Ministry Foreign Affairs
states registration of Pan York and Pan Crescent now
officially cancelled.

2 2 2



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LEGACION DE PANAMÁ

No. CL-590
EAM

London, 6th January, 1948

Dear Mr. Cable,

With reference to my letter No. CL-586 of 31st December
I now write to say that my Government have implemented their
previous decision not to renew the provisional registration
of the s.s. "PAN YORK" and s.s. "PAN CRESCENT", by the
promulgation of an Executive Decree No. 1530 of 2nd January,
1948, cancelling permanently the registration of both
vessels.

I would be very pleased if you would kindly convey this
information to Mr. Bevin.

Yours sincerely

Eusebio A. Morales

J.E. Cable, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1

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Class...371.....

Piece 68513...

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Public Records Act, 1958

E 309/2/316

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<p>1043</p> <p>4</p> <p>E 317 12/31/6</p> <p>Marseilles</p> <p>3</p> <p>Dated 6 Jan.</p>		<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E 317 /G</p> <p>70</p>
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E 309</p> <p>References.</p> <p>E 12085/48/C-1947</p> <p>E 11847/4656/C-1946</p> <p>(Print.)</p> <p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>Del) Paris. 41. Jan 10</p> <p>ltd Marseilles 4</p> <p>8) 1.1.19.</p>		<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>This confirms our own reports. Although this ship is too small to be important in herself, it will be a pity if she is allowed to sail, as we have used her detention by the French as a stick with which to beat the Italians (see our telegram to Rome in E 12085). Unfortunately we can not use Volentini's information with the French (see E 11877).</p> <p>I think we might nevertheless ask the French Govt. to deny her facilities, even if they cannot detain her. I submit draft telegram accordingly.</p> <p>Western Dept. a/c</p> <p>3/1</p> <p>JB Jan 10</p> <p>Mr Horn in the Ministry of State's office, is shortly going to Marseilles "en poste", and I think it would be useful for him to see here ^{and} any subsequent papers affecting that part of the world.</p> <p>Mr. Horn</p> <p>John Wilson</p> <p>18 Jan.</p>	
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>25 21/1</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p>Wf.</p>	<p>Next Paper.</p>	

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Cypher/OTP

317 71
JAN 10 1948
DEPARTMENTAL

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Kay, D. 7.05 p.m. 6th January, 1948.
No. 3
6th January, 1948 R. 9.00 p.m. 6th January, 1948.

Addressed to Paris telegram No. 2 of January 6th
repeated to the Foreign Office.

Secret.

Foreign Office telegram No. 1.

Cotentin (your telegram No. 86 - 1946) informed
Gallagher today that according to his information
"Sette Fratelli" was definitely engaged in Jewish
immigration traffic and that local press about her
other activities, were incorrect.

2. This ship has now been released by French
authorities who were merely holding her while enquiry
was being made. Her engine is under repair and she is
expected to leave Toulon in a few days time. Cotentin
said that the French police had no grounds for continuing
to detain this ship.

5. Malta informed.

QQQQ

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Registry
No. E 317/2/G
J.L.C.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

PARIS

Telegram.

No. 41

(Date) Jan 15

Repeat to:-

Marseilles H.

~~Re-Claim.~~
~~Code.~~
Cypher.

Distribution:-

Departmental ~~3~~
Public

Copies to:-

I.I.P.

CYPRER

10/11 1947. 72

Despatched 5 50 P.M.

~~Important~~
Confidential

Addressed Paris telegram no 41
January 10th - repeated for information
to Marseilles.

Marseilles telegram no. 3 to you
[of 6th January: Jewish illegal immigration]

Definition of "SETTE FRATELLI"
was the most helpful step yet
taken by French Government towards
cooperation in preventing Jewish illegal
immigration and ~~we~~ hoped they will
not spoil this welcome gesture by
facilitating her departure. Please ask
them at least to limit supplies
of food and fuel, in accordance
with their promise
reported in your telegram no. 251
saying, if there can not be
denied altogether. JB tan 10

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Cypher/OTP
E. 517/2/G.
Confidential.
FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PARIS.

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PARIS.

No. 41. D. 5.50.p.m. January 10th. 1948.
January 10th, 1948.

Repeated to Marseilles No. 4.

IMPORTANT
CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed Paris telegram No. 41 January 10th,
repeated for information to Marseilles.

Marseilles telegram No. 3. to you [of 6th January:
Jewish illegal immigration].

Detention of "Sette Fratelli" was the most helpful step yet taken by French Government towards cooperation in preventing Jewish illegal immigration and we hope they will not spoil this welcome gesture by facilitating her departure. Please ask them at least to limit supplies of food and fuel, in accordance with their promise reported in your telegram No. 251 Saving, if these can not be denied altogether.

000

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E

1948

PALESTINE

E 343

JAN

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E345/2/31

J. Greenway

Legation

Panama

143/176/47

31 Dec

8 Jan

Illegal Immigrant Ship.

Refers (E 204/2/31) Enquirer cutting from 'Star & Herald' of Dec 31 which stated that President continues to discuss question of Panamanian Registry with everybody but our Legation. Mr Greenway will make necessary representations to new Minister at first opportunity.

Last Paper.

309 (304) 317

(Minutes.)

Drawn 10 Jan 8

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

o/t J. Greenway
Panama.
from Mr. Rich
Jan. 10
o/s Mr. Bromley.
W. Jan
Jan. 10

(Action
completed.)

8/10/10/

(Index)

24/1/48

Next Paper.

E 354

26513 F.O.P.

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enter E
BRITISH LEGATION,
PANAMA.
31st december 1947 *75*

143/173/47

Air mail

My dear Peith,

I enclose a cutting from the *E 34*
Herald of December 31st which shows that the
president of the republic continues to discuss
this question with everybody except this
Legation. The Americans also seem to have
been having talks with the panamanian ministry
of foreign relations. Meanwhile, I am
entirely by-passed.

You will have seen that the terms of
my two notes (my despatches numbered 141 and 142
of December 30th to the panamanian minister for
foreign relations) were reasonably acid; but when
I get a chance to see the new minister for
foreign relations I shall certainly let him know
that I am disappointed and mystified by the
attitude of the panamanian government.

I am sending a copy of this letter to
His Majesty's Ambassador in Washington.

yours ever,

Earl Selwyn

J. C. S. Peith, Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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76

"STAR & HERALD" December 31st 1947

Panama May Cancel Licenses Of Ships Carrying Jews

The Panama Government will cancel the licenses of the Panama flag ships Pan Crescent and Pan York, reported to be carrying thousands of Palestine immigrants aboard, if proof is received that the two ships are engaged in illegal traffic, President Enrique Jimenez announced yesterday at a press conference.

The Chief Executive said the Panamanian Consulate in Istanbul, Turkey, has been instructed to report as soon as possible on the activities of the two vessels.

It will be recalled that several months ago the British Government asked the Panama Government to cancel the licenses of the Pan Crescent and the Pan York, alleging that the two ships were carrying Jews to Palestine illegally. At that time the Panama Government turned down the British request asserting that no adequate proof was furnished to substantiate the charges.

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Registry
No. E.345/2/31.

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J.G.S.E.

Draft.

Mr. J. D. Greenway,
H.M. Minister,
PANAMA.

From: Mr. Beith.

RECEIVED
DIVISION.
9 JAN 1948
SECTION
10/1

Copy to:

Mr. Bromley,
Washington.

10
8th January, 1948.

Dear Greenway,

Thank you for your letter of December 31st
about Panamanian ships ^{engaged} in the Jewish illegal
immigrant traffic.

We are sending you ^{separately} copies of recent
correspondence with the Panamanian Legation
here which should leave the Charge d'Affaires
in no doubt as to our opinion of his Government's
latest performance. I have also spoken to
Morales on the same lines, pointing out that
we received ~~no~~ official notification of the
Panamanian decision to cancel registration
~~until this was far too late~~ ^{for it} to have any effect
on the movements of the ships. Morales's
suggestion that we might have acted on the
assumption that registration had expired, in
view of the fact that ^{the} "patentes provisionales"
had not been specifically renewed, is quite
absurd. ^{It is clear} ~~Everyone can see~~ that the Panamanian
Government were simply sitting on the fence
and, if we had acted on the above assumption,
we should undoubtedly have been told that the
ships were under Panamanian flag until
registration was specifically withdrawn.

The Government of Panama have one last
chance to co-operate in the case of the "Medina",
about which we are telegraphing to you.

I am sending a copy of this letter to
the Embassy at Washington.

JB Jan 8

Yours ever

(Sgd.) John Beith.

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

OUT FILE

78

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

(E 345/2/31)
Confidential

10th January, 1948.

Dear Greenway

Thank you for your letter of 31st December last about Panamanian ships engaged in the Jewish illegal immigrant traffic.

We are sending you separately copies of recent correspondence with the Panamanian Legation here which should leave the Charge d'affaires in no doubt as to our opinion of his Government's latest performance. I have also spoken to Morales on the same lines, pointing out that we received official notification of the Panamanian decision to cancel registration far too late for it to have any effect on the movements of the ships. Morales' suggestion that we might have acted on the assumption that registration had expired, in view of the fact that the "patentes provision les" had not been specifically renewed, is quite absurd. It is clear that the Panamanian Government are simply sitting on the fence and, if we had acted on the above assumption, we should undoubtedly have been told that the ships were under Panamanian flag until registration was specifically withdrawn.

The Government of Panama have once again refused to co-operate in the case of the "Medina", about which we are telegraphing to you.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Embassy at Washington.

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) John Beith
(J.G.M. Beith)

J.D. Greenway, Esq., C.M.G.,
Panama.

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1943 5	Palestine EASTERN	E354 /G 79
E 354 12/8 31/6 Washington 85 Dated 4 Jan.	Jewish Illegal Immigration	
Last Paper. E317 References. E12065/84/81	(Minutes.) Now please see E 397 and action thereon.	
(Print.)		
(How disposed of.) Being copied.		
(Action completed.) 25/3/1	(Index.) 1/4	
Next Paper.		

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DEPARTMENTAL.

F354

80

IMPORTANT.
CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram No. 13501.

Jewish illegal immigration.

State Department have received from Derecktor copies of correspondence exchanged between him, Kahn and Ruys & Company of Rotterdam, who are the principals of Rotterdam Lloyd.

3. In a letter of 30th December from Ruys to Kahn in Scheveningen about Colonel F.C. Johnson, translation of which has been attested by Netherlands Chamber of Commerce in New York, former said that they would gladly take agency for "the above mentioned ship" at Rotterdam, Antwerp and Marseilles on condition that "the ship leaving for Palestine will only carry legal cargo and legal immigrants". State Department also showed us copy of telegram from Derecktor to Ruys dated 5th January appointing latter agents for six months, and a letter of the same date confirming the telegram and saying that Derecktor's intention was to send Colonel F.C. Johnson from Norfolk via the Azores to Rotterdam, where she would be converted. He requested the assistance of Ruys's New York agents for obtaining bunker coal, and a subsequent telegram from them to their New York agents, Funch Ede & Company of 25 Broadway, New York City, requested the latter to afford all the necessary assistance. State Department believe this firm to be reputable.

3. In conversation with the State Department, Derecktor said that only agreement with Ruys would be in the form of an exchange of letters. He stated that he intended to use Colonel F.C. Johnson for general Mediterranean trade between Marseilles, Alexandria, and perhaps Haifa. He intended to use a Dutch crew and again asked for a quick decision, since he now wishes to bring a Dutch crew to the United States to sail the ship to Holland.

4. We drew State Department's attention to the curious phrase in Ruy's letter to Kahan about the ship leaving for Palestine, which one would have expected to reach "the above ship" or something similar, if reference to the Colonel F.C. Johnson herself had been intended and we pointed out that this looked as if it referred to some other ship. If that were /so....

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5. State Department said that Mr. Lovett's office were pressing for a quick decision and they then suggested that, in his application for the transfer of the ship to a foreign flag, Derecktor should undertake that she would not be used for the transport of uncertified immigrants or of illegal cargo to Palestine. If he broke this undertaking he would be subject to penalties for making a false statement and they thought that this might constitute an adequate safeguard. He might also be required to produce a letter from Ruys to him making it a condition for their agency that Colonel P.C. Johnson herself should only carry legal cargo and immigrants if sailing to Palestine. They also thought that the ship could now hardly be ready for use before the end of March and could only reach Palestine waters a short time before the termination of the Mandate.

6. State Department propose to work out their suggestion in rather more detail, and would be grateful for your very early comments for this purpose.

Foreign Office please pass to The Hague and Jerusalem
as my telegrams 1 and 8 respectively.

[Repeated to The Hague and copies sent to Telegraph
Section C.O. for repetition to Jerusalem].

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Piece.....68513.....

E 362 / 2 / 31 G

E 376 " "

E 394 " "

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<p>8</p> <p>E 394/2/31/6</p> <p>Washington 8Y Jared & Van</p>		<p>Palestine</p> <p>E 394/2/G</p> <p>Illegal immigration: 81 Detector</p>
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E 362</p> <p>References.</p> <p>E 354/2/9</p> <p>(Print.)</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>This telegram and that in E 354 were discussed by the Working Party at their meeting this morning. The Working Party agreed that Director had produced no evidence to refute our suspicions and that safeguards suggested by State Dept. were insufficient.</p> <p>I submit draft telegram accordingly.</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> (J.A. CABLE) 12/1</p> <p>I agree: our suspicions of this ship are if anything increased</p> <p>John Burt Jan 12 JB Jan 12</p>	
<p>Rptd (Has disposed of.) Rptd The Hague No 2 Rptd C.O. Rptd 40' 10" 419 12 Jan Rptd Panama 4 New York 12 Rptd 4 Jan Rptd 8) 11P 16 Jan</p> <p>(Action completed.) SF 13/1</p> <p>(Index.) 14/4</p> <p>Next Paper.</p>		

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Cypher/OTP

F398 82
DEPARTMENTAL

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel, D. 7.45 p.m. 8th January, 1948.
No. 87
8th January, 1948. R. 12.55 a.m. 9th January, 1948.

Repeated to The Hague,
Jerusalem,
Panama Saving.
New York (Consul General) Saving.

IMMEDIATE

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 87 of January 8th
repeated to The Hague, Jerusalem, and Saving to Panama and
Consul General New York.

CONFIDENTIAL. E/9

My telegram No. 85 paragraphs 5 and 6. Jewish illegal
immigration.

As a result of informal discussion between State
Department and Maritime Commission, latter believe that they
might be able to require from Derecktor an affidavit on the
lines suggested and also the posting by him of a bond of
perhaps one hundred thousand dollars in support thereof.
The affidavit would contain reference to Brownsam Incorporated
as well as to Derecktor and an undertaking roughly to the
effect that Colonel F.C. Johnson "would not carry to
Palestine illegal cargo or prior to the termination of the
mandate, immigrants uncertified by the Mandatory Power".
This would leave Derecktor free to transport immigrants on
behalf of the Jewish Agency after our responsibility for
Palestine ends.

2. In addition to the letter from Ruys referred to in
the fifth paragraph of my telegram under reference, Maritime
Commission consider that Derecktor might also be required to
produce an undertaking from that firm that they will not
cause him to contravene the terms of his bond in their
operation of the agency.

3. State Department hoped that his might enable the case
to be disposed of and again said that they would be grateful
for your views as soon as possible.

Foreign Office please pass to The Hague as my telegram
No. 2, and to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 9.

[Repeated to The Hague and copies sent to Colonial Office
for repetition to Jerusalem].

Q.Q

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68513					
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Registry
No. 597/2/G

~~SECRET~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Draft. Telegram
Washington

Telegram.

No. 419

(Date) Jan 12

Repeat to :-

Panama 4.
Consul General
New York 12.
Jerusalem 12.

The Hague, Saving.
SAV.

N. American Dept:
first.

By Clair.
Code.
Cypher.

Distribution :-
Departmental

Copies to :-

1, L.P. 16/1

Ship load of
illegal immigrants

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

CYPRUS

12th January, 1948.

Despatched M.

Addressed Washington telegram No. 419 of

Jan 12 repeated for information to
Panama, Consul General New York, Jerusalem,
and Saving to the Hague.

Your telegrams Nos. 85 and 87 of 7th and
8th January

Jewish Illegal Immigration.

State Department's views have been given
careful consideration here. I cannot agree
that the additional details furnished by
Derecktor in any way weaken our suspicions,
now reinforced by a report from the London
Insurance Market, that the ship's owners have
refused to include a ~~warranty~~ against
illegal immigration in the contract for insuring
the "Colonel F.C. Johnson". Insurance has
accordingly been denied.

It is quite incorrect to argue,
2. Not can I agree that it is now too late
for "Colonel F.C. Johnson" to reach Palestine
waters before the end of the Mandate. If she
is intended to transport either illegal
immigrants or arms, little refitting will be
needed, and four months will be ample for the
take more than a month at the outside.
whole journey from the United States to

Palestine. Nor would Arrival of this large
ships' passengers, who would probably have to
be admitted to Palestine, as "Pan York" and
"Pan Crescent" have left only 3000
vacancies in

Cyprus/

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1	2	3	4	5	6

FO 371 / 68513

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^{would be equally} at
Cyprus camps, ~~to any less~~ ^{any date before the end of the Mandate} ~~unwelcome in the~~
~~last month of the Mandate than at present.~~

3. Failure of Jewish Agencies' attempts to prevent the sailing of these two ships and affidavit signed by ^{Conus of} President ^{Sarfield} ~~Waterford~~ are only two instances of the worthlessness of Jewish assurances, while smuggling of explosives recently reported by you shows how little Jews are deterred by financial risk or respect for U.S. Law where interests of future Jewish State are concerned. Neither the affidavit signed by ~~the Derecktor~~ nor the ^{bond} ~~opinion~~ suggested by State Department are adequate substitutes for the conditions proposed in my telegram No. 12200.

4. I should be grateful, therefore, if you would explain my views to the United States Government and, while thanking them for the valuable assistance they have given in this matter, request them to continue the detention of the "Colonel F.C. Johnson" unless ^{and} until ^{Kahn} ~~Kahn~~ and Derecktor are willing to comply with the conditions in my telegram under reference.

JB Jan 12

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE											
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1	2	3	4	5	6						
REFERENCE:-											
FO 371 / 68513											
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-2-

4. I should be grateful, therefore, if you would explain my views to the United States Government and, while thanking them for the valuable assistance they have given in this matter, request them to continue the detention of the "Colonel M.C. Johnson" unless and until Kahn and Derecktor are willing to comply with the conditions in my telegram under reference.

A A A A

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FO 371 / 68513

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34

E

1948

PALESTINE

E 418

9 JAN

Registry
Number
FROM

E 418/2/31

No.

Legation

Dated

Belgia

Received
in Registry

390

27 Dec

9 Jan

Illegal Immigration
 Ref. Sofia despatch 386 (E 88/2/31) transmit
 copy of letter to Bulgarian Minister dated
 27 Dec. as slip to be taken to prevent
 illegal French passport stoppage.

Last Paper.

E 408

(Minutes.)

References.

✓ Govt
 Southern Dept.

8/9/1

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

9/1/48

(Index.)

24/1/48

Next Paper.

E 423

26513 F.O.P.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

1 2 3 4 5 6

Reference:-

FO 371 / 68513

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No. 390
(20160/47)

HIS Majesty's Minister at Sophia
presents his compliments to H. M. Principal Secretary
of State for Foreign Affairs
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

British Legation,
Sofia,
Bulgaria.

27th Dec. 1947....

Reference to previous correspondence:

Sophia despatch No. 386 to Foreign Office
Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.												
Letter to Bulgarian Minister For Foreign Affairs dated 27.12.47.	Illegal immigration.												
<p>Copies have also been sent to:</p> <table> <tbody> <tr> <td>U.K.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>U.S.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>U.K. New York No. 9.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bucharest</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jerusalem</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Washington</td> <td>90</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		U.K.	2	U.S.	1	U.K. New York No. 9.		Bucharest	29	Jerusalem	5	Washington	90
U.K.	2												
U.S.	1												
U.K. New York No. 9.													
Bucharest	29												
Jerusalem	5												
Washington	90												

3479A 33014—1 (8)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-

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British Legation,
Sofia.

27th December 1947.

VERY URGENT.

E 418

My dear Minister,

Since I addressed to Your Excellency my letter No. 27/155/47 of December 24th, about the possibility of the further utilization of Bulgarian ports for the embarkation of would-be illegal immigrants into Palestine, I understand that the "Pan Crescent" and the "Pan York" have in fact arrived at Bourgas. I have also learnt that on December 25th as many as 12,000 would-be illegal immigrants into Palestine were passing in transit from Roumania to Bulgarian ports by train via Giurgiu and Dobrich.

It is clear therefore that an attempt to transport illegal immigrants on an unprecedentedly large scale from Bulgarian ports to Palestine is in progress, and I have reason to believe that some Jews from this country also are being sent to swell the total.

I am bound therefore to renew as a matter of great urgency the representations which I made in my letter of December 24th. I would earnestly beg Your Excellency to take immediate steps to stop this traffic which, on the scale now contemplated, cannot fail to accentuate the critical position in Palestine and is particularly reprehensible now that the United Nations have made their recommendations for the future of the country and my Government is on the point of negotiating with the Commission appointed by the United Nations regarding the transfer of authority.

Believe me, my dear Minister,
Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) J.C. Sterndale Bennett.

His Excellency
Monsieur Vassil Kolarov,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and Vice-president of the Council of Ministers.

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Group.....FO.....
Class.....371.....
Piece.....68513.....

Following document(s) retained
in the Department of origin
under Section 3 (4) of the
Public Records Act, 1958

E 42 3/2 / 31 G

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		1		2					

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1948

E

PALESTINE

E 453

12 JAN

Registry
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

in Registry

Last Paper.

445-

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 9.9.P. (✓)
Vol 13

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

45-5-

Illegal Immigration
Some report motor sailing vessel Liberta Italian
flag, may have recently left Italy for Southern
France to embark illegal immigrants.
Have since the vessels of this name given
particulars.

ADDRESS: MARSEILLES N° 1

(Minutes.)

She is on the list but H.I.S. have
no confirmation of her movements. S.

12/

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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En clair by confidential bag

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Ashley Clarke
No. 5 Saving

7th January, 1948

R. 10th January, 1948

E 453

12 JAN

SECRET

Addressed to Marseilles telegram No. 1 of 7th January repeated Saving to Foreign Office.

Illegal Immigration.

Rome report motor sailing vessel Liberta, Italian flag, may have recently left Italy for Southern France to embark illegal immigrants.

2. Rome have record of two vessels of this name

(a) motor sailing vessel, 90 (ninety) tons dead weight, owners Giuseppe Farinelli, of Comacchio, on East coast;

(b) motor ship, 1000 tons dead weight, owned by Genoa company of Ignazio Messina.

888

89

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1948

E

E 455

90

12 JAN

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 455/2/31

W. Farrell

Barbours

45

10 JAN

12 -

Last Paper.

453

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

(Index)

Next Paper.

45-6

Illegal Immigration

R/w 11/1/30

From Mr. Barbours to 31 (E 394/2/31)
on a back military attack with several
inquiry.

(Minutes.)

Eastern Dept. would be grateful
for the views of Services Liaison Dept.
on this proposal and for any further
details they may have received through
other channels. Please see also E 394.

Spable
(J. E. CABLE)

12/1

Services Liaison Dept.

M. 5 and M. 6 reports attached

Arch. Telles 141
Arch. Telles 54242

JD Tan 23

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 68513

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E *Allen* 91
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Cypher /OTP

FILES

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sarell

D. 5.34 p.m. 10th January, 1948

No. 48

10th January, 1948

R. 6.15 p.m. 10th January, 1948

IMPORTANT

TOP SECRET

Canis
Your telegram No. 30 [sic]

E 455

12 JAN

Please see my telegram No. 31 in which Military Attaché dealt with parallel enquiry. Please inform Washington, Jerusalem, Sofia as you think fit.

PPP



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E

E 456

92

1948

PALESTINE

12 JAN

Registry
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received

in Registry

E 456/2/31

L. V. Mollat

Rome

40

10 JAN

12 -

Jewish Illegal Immigration

Rptd 4051 45 (E 12085/48/9) the transmit
suggested reply to P.O.This is a commercial occasion to clear up
the traffic.

Last Paper.

415-

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 9 P. (on E 453)

Jan. 13

H. Long 76.

Rptd Panama. 5

Reno 2

Madrid. 1(5)

N. Yon 50(5)

cf. New York 1(5)

urgora 4(5)

Rudapest 17(5)

Sofia 11(5) Jan 13

(Action
completed.)

(Index)

Next Paper.

E 477

(Minutes.)

At their meeting this morning, the inter-departmental Working Party on Jewish illegal immigration expressed concern at the threat presented by three sizeable ships now in or nearing Italian ports and suggested that H.M.G. should make forceful representations to the Italian Govt. to prevent their departure.

I think we might also approach the Govt. of Panama about them and submit draft telegrams to Rome and Panama accordingly.

Huble
(J.L. CABLER)
12/1

Des Saint
Jan 13

Western Dep.

I have suggested a slight amendment in pencil, since an amendment to help with I think is more better than the presentation of a bill for

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM ROME TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir V. Mallet
No: 40

D.11.56.a.m.10th January 1948

10th January 1948

R. 1.15.p.m.10th January 1948

IMPORTANT

Your telegram No: 45. Jewish illegal immigration.

We suggest that reply to Parliamentary Question might be on the following lines as it would be a convenient occasion to show up this traffic.

[Begins].

2. We have no doubt that these Jews were embarked clandestinely and without authorisation from the Italian authorities as has happened on previous occasions. The ship in question is understood to have sailed from Spezia on December 8th ostensibly on legitimate business and embarkation apparently occurred from a point on the coast near Civitavecchia. Some of the Jews concerned are known to have left Aire Camp near Bari on the east coast on December 9th (my telegram No: 32).

3. His Majesty's Embassy have drawn the attention of the Italian Government to the Jews' arrival in Palestine (we are addressing a note based on your telegrams 20 and 32) and have expressed your dissatisfaction that this illegal embarkation should not have been prevented by the Italian authorities. Further action is being reserved pending the results of the investigations which it is hoped the Italian Government will make into the circumstances.

[Ends].

4. For your information the Italian Government were not requested to detain this ship in port because she was not known by our experts to be suspect until after she had sailed from Spezia nor was any warning received of the embarkation. This is therefore not a good case for strong protest to the Italian Government, but we do not want to admit publicly to having been outwitted by this particular ship.

X:X:X:

E 456

93

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I.F.C

Draft.

PANAMA

Telegram.

No. 6

(Date) Jan. 13

Repeat to :—

~~Roma
Lynch
in c. med.~~

~~En Clair.~~
~~Code.~~
~~Cypher.~~

Distribution :-

Departmental

2 drafts

Copies to :—

I.I.P.

Mr. J. Beir
Jan 12

SECRET

90

F. O.,
12/1949

Despatched 3.55 M

Important
~~Confidential~~

Addressed Panama Telegram

My telegrams nos. 3 to you
and ~~6~~ 76 to Rome [of 10th and
13th ~~Jan~~ January: Jewish illegal immigrants]

Please also request withdrawal of Panamanian registry from "ATAKAMA" and "CYPRUS".

JB Jan 13

[copy sent to sub
secretariat]

3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F & S

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

2	3	"	1
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95

DEPARTMENTAL

No. 6.

13th January, 1948.

My telegrams Nos. 3 to you and 76 to Rome [of 10th and 13th January. Jewish illegal immigration].

Please also request withdrawal of Panamanian registry from "Atalena" and "Cypress".

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

000

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Registry
No. 297/2/831

CONFIDENTIAL
RECORDED
INDEXED

Draft Telegram

Rome

Telegram.

No. 76

(Date) Jan 13

Repeat to:—

Panama 5
Genoa 2
C. in G.
Mediterranean

Saving to:
Madrid 1 (saw)
Washington 50
Consul General
New York 1 (saw)
Ankara 1 (saw)
Bucharest 17 (saw)
Sofia 11 (saw)
Jerusalem

Italian Dept.
American Dept.
first. 131

Ex. Ch. of.
Cypher.

Distribution:—
Departmental

Copies to:—
1.1.P.

And a threat to
the peace of
the Middle East

OUTSIDE

CONFIDENTIAL

CYPHER

12th January, 1948

Despatched M.

Addressed Rome Telegram No 76 of Jan:

13th and repeated for information to
Panama, Genoa, C. in C. Mediterranean, and
Saving to Madrid, Washington, Consul General
New York, Ankara, Bucharest, Sofia, and
Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 40 (not to all)

[of 10th January: Jewish Illegal Immigration]

Particular concern is felt here lest the three
largest suspect ships now in or approaching
Italian ports, should reach Palestine waters
before the end of the Mandate. These are the
"Atalena", "Cypress", and "Medina", whose
particulars are contained in fortnightly list
of suspect shipping. The "Medina" left Las
Palmas for Genoa on the 9th January, while the
other two are ^{already} held there.

2. I should be grateful, therefore, if you
~~the extreme seriousness of the present situation:~~
would explain to the Italian Government ~~that~~
the Cyprus camps now have space left for only
3,000, whereas the combined capacity of these
three ships is some 14,000. Moreover one of
them, the "Atalena", is operated by the
American League for a Free Palestine, an
organisation avowedly pledged to the support
of Jewish Terrorists. ^(You should inform the Italian Govt that)
The arrival of any of
these ships before the end of the Mandate might
~~well touch off the present~~
~~create a~~ critical situation in Palestine, and ~~that~~
their departure from an Italian port would
consequently be a matter of the gravest concern
to His Majesty's Government. ~~I do not~~
~~consider~~ In

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JB Jan 13

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Cypher/ATP
E456/2/51
Confidential

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO ROME

No. 76

January 15th, 1948.

D. 4.55 p.m. January 15th, 1948.

Repeated to Panama No. 5, Genoa No. 2, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean, Madrid No. 1 Saving, Washington No. 50 Saving, Consul General New York No. 1 Saving, Angora No. 4 Saving, Bucharest No. 17 Saving, Sofia No. 11 Saving and Jerusalem Saving.

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed Rome telegram No. 76 of January 15th and repeated for information to Panama, Genoa, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean, and Saving to Madrid, Washington, Consul General New York, Angora, Bucharest, Sofia and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 40 (not to all) [of January 10th: Jewish Illegal Immigration]. Particular concern is felt here lest the three largest suspect ships now in or approaching Italian ports, should reach Palestine waters before the end of the Mandate. These are the "Atalena", Cypress", and "Medina", whose particulars are contained in fortnightly list of suspect shipping. The "Medina" left Las Palmas for Genoa on the 9th January, while the other two are already there.

2. I should be grateful, therefore, if you would explain to the Italian Government the extreme seriousness of the present situation: the Cyprus camps now have space left for only 3,000, whereas the combined capacity of these three ships is some 14,000. Moreover one of them, the "Atalena", is operated by the American League for a Free Palestine, an organisation avowedly pledged to the support of Jewish Terrorists. You should inform the Italian Government that the arrival of any of these ships before the end of the Mandate might well touch off the present critical situation in Palestine and that their departure from an Italian port would consequently be a matter of the gravest concern to His Majesty's Government and a threat to the peace of the Middle East. In these circumstances His Majesty's Government most earnestly trust that the Italian Government will help them by delaying the departure of these ships until after the end of the Mandate i.e. for only four months at the outside.

3. For your own information, His Majesty's Minister in Panama has been instructed to request withdrawal of Panamanian Registration from these ships.

SSSSS

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**Registry
No.** _____

Draft.

Telegram.
Rome.

No. 175 ✓

(Date) Jan 22

Repeat to :-

Panama 2/14.

Genoa 4! priority

~~Ex Clair.~~
~~Codex~~
Cypher.

Distribution :-
Departmental

Copies to :-
I.I.P.

22nd January 1948
Despatched F. O. M.

IMPORANT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
Addressed to Route Tele 175 ¹/₂ m 22⁷
Reph. Infr. Panama & Cienfuegos
My telegram No. 76 [of 13th January:

Jewish Illegal Immigration.7

I should be glad of periodical reports from you or H.M. Consul~~ate~~^{Genoa}-General on position regarding "Medina", which is considered very dangerous. We should keep a close watch ^{on} ~~here~~ in co-operation with the Italian authorities.

JB Jan 22

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DEPARTMENTAL

No. 175

Repeated to Panama No. 14
Genoa No. 4

Addressed to Rome telegram No. 175 of January 22nd.,
repeated for information to Panama and Geneva.

I should be glad of periodical reports from you or His Majesty's Consul-General Geneva on position regarding "Medina", which is considered very dangerous. We should keep a close watch on her in co-operation with the Italian authorities.

rrrrrr

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-

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13 1948 E477 12/31/48 Medina 15 Dated 10 Jan		Palestine EASTERN	E477 /G 100
Last Paper. E423 References. E2091/48/9 (Print.) (How disposed of.) 8) 11P 12 Jan		(Minutes.) Action has been taken on other papers. See within 1. Adly round 122241A / January 13 Jan	
(Action completed.) 25/13/1	(Index.) W.P.	Next Paper.	

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL

E444

FROM MADRID TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Howard D.1.45 p.m. 10th January, 1948.
No.15 R.3.44 p.m. 10th January, 1948.
10th January, 1948.
Repeated to Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Gibraltar
Rome

IMMEDIATE

RESTRICTED

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.15
January 10th, repeated to Commander-in-Chief
Mediterranean Gibraltar, and Rome.

Your telegram No.14.

Spanish Naval Authorities state that
s.s. "Medina" left Las Palmas 1300 hours
January 9th for Genoa.

2. See M.I.5 report No.26 on suspected
shipping.

B B B

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Reference:-					
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E447 / C

102

FROM: F. O. Gibraltar,

Date: 13.11.48.

Recd: 2256.

INTERSERVICE GEN. (X)

ADDRESSED: N.O.I.C, Port Said.
Info: C. in C. Med, GREEKMIL for B.C.I.S. Admiralty for D.N.I.

IMPORTANT.

MEDINA entered Mediterranean 2230A today Monday.

2. When challenged gave destination as Genoa.

122241A

Advance Copy D.C. & R.C.

1st Lord.
1st S. L. (3)
V. C. N. S.
A. C. N. S.
U. S. S.
O. D. (8)
D. C. (2)
M. (8)
D. N. I. (5)
D. of F. (2)
D. of P. (Q)
C. N. I. (2)

C. 47.

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<p>14 15413</p> <p>E491 12/13/1948</p> <p>Bucharest</p> <p>51</p> <p>Dated 12 Jan</p>		<p>Valentine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E491 /G</p> <p>22 JAN 1949</p> <p>103</p>
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E477</p> <p>References.</p> <p>E309/2/9</p> <p>(Print.)</p> <p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>being opened</p>		<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>Southern Dept. 14/1</p> <p>13/1</p>	
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>2/15</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p>14/1</p>	<p>Next Paper.</p>	

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Cypher/OTP

104
E491
DEPARTMENTAL

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sorell
No. 51

D. 10.52 a.m. January 12th, 1948.
R. 11.25 a.m. January 12th, 1948.

Repeated to Sofia, Angora, Jerusalem, Washington,
British Middle East Office Cairo, Commander-
in-Chief Mediterranean Malta.

RESTRICTED

Addressee to Foreign Office telegram No. 51 of
January 12th, repeated Sofia, Angora, Jerusalem, Washington,
British Middle East Office Cairo, Commander-in-Chief
Mediterranean Malta.

Sofia telegram No. 24 to Foreign Office.

Jewish Illegal Immigration.

While I have heard rumours of the arrival in the
Black Sea of another ship I have so far obtained no
confirmation. Rumour mentioned ship as coming from
Marseilles.

Foreign Office please repeat to Angora, Jerusalem,
Washington, British Middle East Office Cairo, Commander-
in-Chief Mediterranean Malta as my telegrams Nos. 1, 2,
10, 1 and 1 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora, Washington, and British
Middle East Office Cairo]
[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial
Office for repetition to Jerusalem and to
War Registry Admiralty for Commander-in-
Chief Mediterranean]

SSSSS

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42

E

E 500

105

1948

PALESTINE

JAN

Registry
Number

E 500/2/31

FROM

Many Young

No.

E. E.

Dated P. 305/1/48

Received
in Registry

7 Jan

13 -

Hearings of M. PETERI NIPOT.

Refer P. 305/1/48 of the 3 (E. 500/2/31)
 re belongings of Lipet which were taken from
 him at Safa. After enquiries, including
 approaches to the fellow travellers (who say
 that his kit was not found aboard the
 ship at Safa) concludes that it was stolen,
 but from there are no means of proving this.

Last Paper.

491

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

P. 305/1/48

(Index)

P. 305/1/48

Next Paper.

524

26513 F.O.P.

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Copy to:
J.E. Cable, Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office, S.W.1.

Political Division,
Headquarters,
Control Commission for Germany,
(British Element),
Berlin, B.A.C.R. 2.

106

Pol. 305/1148

E 500

7th January, 1948.

My dear John, 13 JAN

10270/48/11

As Ivor Pink has now left for Tokyo, I am replying to your letter of the 3rd November (72/933/47), about the belongings of Monsieur Peteri Lipot, who left the transport Empire Rival at Port de Bouc.

We have made all possible enquiries here, including approaches to his fellow travellers, who say that his baggage was not placed on board the ship at Haifa. They say that none of them can recollect having seen any kit, which might have been Lipot's either at Hamburg or en route. If his belongings were on board, it looks very much as if one of his shipmates has pinched them. But I fear that there are no means of proving this, or of tracing the missing goods.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Cable in the Eastern Department.

(Sgd) Yours ever,
HILARY YOUNG.

J.E. Coulson, Esq., CMG,
British Embassy,
Paris.

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INDEXED

BRITISH EMBASSY,
PARIS.

7th January, 1948.

500 2 31

13 JAN 1962

*With the Compliments
of His Majesty's Embassy.*

J.E. Cable Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office, S.W.1.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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experience.

FO 371 68513

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109

Paris.

1948.

We today received a visit from Mr. Peteri Lipot, about whom I wrote to you on the 3rd November 1947, asking whether you could trace his belongings at Hamburg.

This man is in an extremely difficult position as he has been cast out by the Jewish organisations, who accuse him of being a British spy, and he is unable to earn a living very satisfactorily while in France because he speaks no French.

I shall be grateful to know how your enquiries on his behalf are proceeding.

A copy of this letter goes to James Cable of the Eastern Department of the Foreign Office.

J. E. Coulson.

I.T.M. Pink Esq.,
British Political Division,
Berlin.

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Class.....371.....
Piece...6.8.5.1.3.

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under Section 3 (4) of the
Public Records Act, 1958

E 524/2/31G

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44

E

1.09

E 542

1948

PALESTINE

13 JAN

Registry
Number

E 542/2/31

FROM

2nd edition

No.

Algeria

Dated

1.

Received

25/1/48

in Registry

13 -

Prob. info. re. Algeria.
 French rep. of President's post in the box
 1948, including equal number of Robert's,
 the notes from the "document du Travail"
 d. Photos "documentaire" added by
 Albert M. J. comment on same,
 the statement that copy of Algeria will
 not be further revised until the Algerian French
 government authorities.

Last Paper.

5-24 (141)

(Minutes.)

Ladies to:

M.I.S

C.O.

Adm. Office

usual
names

References.

11431/84/11 47

10608/84/11 '47

Please see E 543

2/14/1

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

5) Mr. Robertson, M.I.S.

Mr. Higham, C.O.

Ch. Evershed, C.O. Off

E 543

Jan 14/48

(Action
completed.)

P. 22/1

(Index.)

24/1/48

Next Paper.

(5-43)

26513 F.O.P.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

1 2 3 4 5 6

1

Reference:-

FO

371

68513

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Last despatch for 1947 - No. 142

British Consulate General, 110
ALGIERS.

DW/IME/B/9

2nd January, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 1

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy in French of a broadsheet found in my letter-box on the 27th December, written one side in French and the other side in Arabic, protesting against the partition of Palestine.

2. This emanates from the "Mouvement du Triomphe des Libertés Democratiques", which is in fact the proscribed "Parti Populaire Algérien" headed by Messali Hadji, the extreme nationalist leader in Algeria. The statements of complicity between the Sionist organisation and French authorities in Algeria as regards encouragement of illegal immigration from Algeria are not true. As pointed out in my various despatches the Governor General and the higher French authorities have adopted a most helpful attitude in this matter resulting in the largely frustrated embarkation of Jews near Guyotville on the night of the 5th November (see my despatch No. 120 of the 10th November), and the statements to the effect that Sionists and illegal immigrants awaiting transport to Palestine were being permitted to carry out military training, manoeuvres and the use of small arms on Algerian soil are totally untrue.

3. As stated in my telegram No. 1 of today's date, Algeria may now be considered to have been cleared of all parties of prospective illegal immigrants to Palestine, who were at one time awaiting outward transportation from here.

4. At the same time it is interesting to note the statement that the Arabs of Algeria will not in future remain indifferent to such activities, by which they presumably mean the assembly of Jews from outside (Morocco, Tunis, etc.) for shipment from an Algerian port, and they may be expected to take a hand should there be any further movements of this nature.

5. A copy of this despatch is being sent to His Majesty's Ambassador in Paris and to His Majesty's Consuls General at Rabat and Tunis.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect, Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,

Darrell L. L. L.

The Right Honourable Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.,
The Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

E 542

13 JAN

1	2	3	4	5	6

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CONTRE TOUT PARTAGE DE LA PALESTINE!

POUR UNE PALESTINE ARABE LIBRE ET INDEPENDANTE!

L'O.N.U. vient de prendre une décision fatale.

Elle a fait le jeu de l'impérialisme sioniste, en votant le partage de la Palestine.

L'Assemblée qui avait été fondée pour préserver le droit sacré des peuples à disposer d'eux-mêmes, a renié sa parole. Elle a livré une majorité d'Arabes à l'asservissement d'une minorité de Sionistes impérialistes.

L'O.N.U. qui s'était promis d'établir après cette guerre une monde de justice et de démocratie, a trahi ses principes. Elle a imposé aux Arabes une solution de force en étouffant leur désir ardent de liberté et d'indépendance.

En proclamant le partage de la Palestine, elle a proclamé un acte d'hostilité vis-à-vis du Monde Arabe qui, de l'Irak au Maroc, suit de très près d'évolution d'une question vitale pour lui.

Les Arabes d'Algérie, solidaires de leurs frères de Palestine, et du Monde Arabe, ne reconnaîtront jamais cet état de fait digne du fascisme.

Ils dénoncent la décision inique de l'O.N.U. et les méthodes de l'impérialisme sioniste qui spéculent sur les sentiments d'humanité des démocrates du monde pour tenter de faire valoir sa thèse d'un état juif en Palestine.

Ils condamnent l'impérialisme sioniste qui essaie, en réalité de transformer la Palestine en une base d'opérations militaires destinée à asservir tout le Moyen-Orient.

Cependant, l'Algérie devient une tête de pont du Sionisme, grâce à la complaisance de l'Administration colonialiste.

Des camps de manoeuvres militaires sont organisés impunément par les Sionistes où le maniement des armes bat son plein.

En divers points de la côte algérienne s'effectue le transport des éléments sionistes.

Les Arabes d'Algérie dénoncent cette complicité entre les impérialismes sioniste et Français et n'admettront jamais que leur pays devienne un bastion du sionisme contre la Palestine Arabe.

Sachant cependant que tous les Juifs ne sont pas sionistes, ils soutiennent néanmoins, de tout leur coeur, la cause de la Palestine Arabe et lutteront sans merci aux côtés du Peuple arabe de Palestine et de tout le Monde Arabe pour l'indépendance de la Palestine et la liquidation du Sionisme criminel.

Les Arabes d'Algérie sont opposés à tout partage de la Palestine et se prononcent pour une Palestine arabe, libre et indépendante.

Le Mouvement du Triomphe
des Libertés Démocratiques.

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E

E 543

PALESTINE

13 JAN

112

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 543/2/31

DANIEL WILSON

Algeria

01/11/17

3 JAN

13 -

GIOVANNI MARIA

Rpt to Mr. (E 11431/84/1) a copy for additional
information. A report received - (Algeria dispatch
no 120, in relation of an attempt to arrest Alger
French immigrant about GIOVANNI MARIA
do not transmit further information.

Last Paper.

(542)

References.

141/2/1

10608/84/1 47

15/1

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) Mr. Higham, P.O.

Mr. Robertson, M.I.S.

Ch. Eversted, Lab. Off.
Jan 19/1(Action
completed.)PP
1/1/22/1

(Index.)

1/1/22/1

Next Paper.

5-44

(Minutes.)

Ref to: C.O. } usual
M.I.S. } names
Security Office }

Please see also E 542.

This letter shows that the
position in Algeria is now satisfactory.
The statement in Mr. Wilson's third
paragraph that some of the would-be
illegal immigrants had been sent
to France is, however, rather disquieting.
We might ask H.M. Embassy in Paris
to speak to the French about this.

Wentley 21/1

CO-ECABKE
14/1

The Embassy might give the
French Govt. a friendly warning

JB Jan 14

On second thoughts

* JB Jan 21

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13 JAN

ALGIERS.

3rd January, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL

DW/IME/B/17

Dear Eastern Department,

With reference to your confidential letter E 11431/84/31 of the 9th December asking for additional information to that contained in my despatch No. 120 of the 10th November about the failure of an attempt to embark Jewish illegal immigrants aboard the "Giovanni Maria", the "mysterious Zionist organisation" to which I referred in paragraph 5 of my despatch comes from outside and has no real roots in Algeria where, as already stated, the local Jewish community is contented and relatively well-off.

I have heard a report that some central Zionist organisation in America, or elsewhere, decided that they would like to see Palestine settled by token immigrants from all parts of Jewry the world over. They were disappointed that the Jewish population of North Africa was hardly represented at all in Palestine and they decided to send an agent to organise immigration from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. This Zionist agent is stated to have been well provided with funds (I have even heard the sum of 120,000 dollars mentioned) for this purpose. It would seem to have been through him that over 500 Jews were brought into Algeria from Morocco as well as up to 50 from Tunisia in order to be embarked on board the "Giovanni Maria" from a point on the coast near Algiers. It is said that the Jews from Morocco had their fares paid through this agent and that they were lodged and fed in organised camps around Algiers at his expense. After two or three months of fruitless waiting, however, and not being able to get away to Palestine, they appeared to have been left in the lurch by the Zionist organiser who is stated to have decamped with a proportion of the Zionist funds still in his possession. While local benevolent societies of the Jewish community in Algeria did what they could to help some of these people in their distress, they found this a heavy burden and were by no means happy to have to finance such a large number of would-be illegal immigrants.

As stated in my telegram No. 1 of yesterday's date Algeria may now be considered as being clear of any illegal immigrants from outside awaiting outward transport to Palestine. The Jews left behind by the "Giovanni Maria" on November 5, numbering 596 in all, have all been sent out of Algeria. While the vast majority were returned at the expense of local and other Jewish funds under Government supervision to Morocco, a certain number elected to be shipped off to Metropolitan France where they considered that their chance of getting away to Palestine would be fairly favourable. The majority of such people were presumably stateless Jews who had originally come into Morocco from Central Europe and who had no homes in Morocco to return to.

The "prominent local Jewish doctor" referred to in paragraph 5 of my despatch, whom the Governor General had summoned and warned is a certain Dr. Henry ABOULKER who is prominent in the affairs

/and welfare

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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-2-

114
EMD

and welfare of the local Jewish community. The Governor General's warning at the time that the Algerian Arabs would not remain indifferent to any further collection and shipment of Jews from Algeria has since been supported by a clear statement to this effect contained in a nationalist Arab broad-sheet, transmitted with my despatch No. 1 of yesterday's date.

For the moment, therefore, it may be taken that there is no collection of Jews in Algeria to attract illegal immigrant ships to call here, especially in view of their knowledge of the attitude of the Algerian authorities towards any such action.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Paris, Rabat and Tunis.

Yours ever.

David H. H. H.

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